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## MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING THE VOLUNTEER FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMS PERSONNEL OF MARYLAND.



Legislative Committee 17 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

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HB 1066: Vehicle Laws – Lighting – Privately Owned Vehicles of Volunteer Fire Company Members

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee. My name is Ben Kurtz, 1st Vice-President of the Maryland State Firefighter's Association.

I'm here to testify in favor of HB-1066 sponsored by Delegate Stein. The bill concerning vehicle laws-lighting-privately owned vehicles of volunteer fire company members.

The Fire Laws of Maryland under section Transportation TR-22-218, allow certain members of a volunteer fire company to equip their privately owned vehicles with red lights or signal devices, and generally relating to vehicle lighting and volunteer fire companies.

This bill allows the members to use red or red and white lights on emergency scenes. The red and white lights are much safer for the members especially the fire police directing traffic on the scene of an emergency incident.

Thank you for your time and energy on this bill and I'm asking each of you for your support.

## **Stein Testimony HB 1066.pdf**Uploaded by: Dana Stein Position: FAV

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## Delegate Dana Stein Testimony in Support of HB 1066 - Lights on Privately Owned Volunteer Vehicles

Chairman Barve and Fellow Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee"

The Fire Police are volunteer fire department members who assist local volunteer fire companies. They report to the local Sheriff, and they can be called upon to assist with many different emergencies, from traffic control to looking for lost people.

This bill would allow these volunteers to add white lights to their vehicles so they can be better seen at night. Right now the volunteers can only use red lights, which can blend into the background at an emergency scene.

By adding the white lights, they believe there is a better margin of safety.

I hope you will support HB 1066 to provide better roadside safety for volunteer Fire Police.